

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 H-02 COME-00 EB-07 SS-15 NSC-05 NEA-10

DHA-02 ORM-02 SCA-01 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00

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DRAFTED BY EUR/EE:NGANDREWS:TL

APPROVED BY EUR:AAHARTMAN

H-STAHNKE

COMMERCE:STROH

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R 030234Z SEP 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS:ETRD, CVIS, RO

SUBJECT: MFN - INFORMAL MEETING WITH HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE
ON TRADE

ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN, AMBASSADOR BARNES, JENKINS
FROM H, AND STROH FROM COMMERCE MET WITH CONGRESSIONAL MEM-
BERS OF SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE OF HOUSE WAYS AND MEANS
COMMITTEE INCLUDING GIBBONS, MIKVA, JONES, PIKE AND FRENZEL.
IN THE COURSE OF FRIENDLY MEETING, MEMBERS OF CONGRESS
RAISED QUESTIONS ABOUT NUMBERS OF ROMANIAN JEWS INTERESTED
IN EMIGRATING, OBSTACLES TO EMIGRATION POSED BY INTERROGA-
TION OR VERIFICATION COMMISSIONS, NOTABLE INCREASE IN
ROMANIAN EXPORTS TO US (EXCLUDING PETROLEUM PRODUCTS) DURING
FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF 1976 OVER SAME PERIOD OF 1975, RE-
DUCED US BALANCE OF TRADE ADVANTAGE, ETC.

2. MEMBERS OF CONGRESS SUGGESTED DESIRABILITY OF HOLDING
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HEARINGS. HARTMAN EXPLAINED POLITICAL SENSITIVITIES OF

ROMANIANS IF VARIOUS GROUPS WERE ALLOWED TO TESTIFY ABOUT
STATUS OF HUNGARIAN MINORITY IN ROMANIA AND TO QUESTION
IMPLICITLY THE EXISTING TERRITORIAL ARRANGEMENTS. SINCE
SUBCOMMITTEE MEMBERS RECOGNIZED THAT THIS ISSUE WAS NOT
DIRECTLY RELATED TO TRADE OR EMIGRATION, THEY

AGREED THAT SUCH TESTIMONY SHOULD BE EXCLUDED.

3. COMMENT: OWING TO PRESSURES ON HOUSE CALENDER, WE DO
NOT KNOW WHETHER HEARINGS WILL IN FACT BE HELD. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE, US CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS, IMMIGRANTS, COMMITTEE MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 03 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE218968
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: NGANDREWS:TL
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760335-0312
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760991/aaaadakc.tel
Line Count: 71
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EUR
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 MAY 2004 by woolflhd>; APPROVED <01 SEP 2004 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MFN - INFORMAL MEETING WITH HOUSE SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRADE ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN, AMBASSADOR BARNES, JE
TAGS: ETRD, CVIS, RO, US
To: BUCHAREST
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006